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PHILIPPINES

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

ENERGY AND CLEAN AIR PROJECT (ECAP)

BACKGROUND



The Philippines' power and transport sectors, which provide electricity and mobility essential for commerce, industry, and daily life – are suffering from continuous operational and systemic inefficiencies because of their heavy reliance on imported energy resources. Cost of power generation in the Philippines remains one of the highest in the region. This situation generates negative impact on investors for the creation of much needed jobs. Power generation and transport, specifically vehicles, are also the leading source of emissions. Poor air quality, caused by pollutant emissions, is one of the most serious environmental problems in Metropolitan Manila and other urban centers due to its negative health and economic impacts.



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Transforming Lives.**

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keyword :energy and clean air

MORE INFO:

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Period Covered: Oct. 2004 to Sept. 2008
Mechanism: Indefinite Quantity Contract

THE PROJECT

The ECA Project builds on the important achievements of previous USAID programs in the energy and environment sectors. While earlier assistance to the energy sector dealt with policy formulation and advocacy, the new ECA Project will focus on averting power crises through new investments in the power distribution system, development of cleaner and indigenous energy resources and improvement in the rate structures that reflect the true cost of power. ECAP will address power supply issues such as energy generation, transmission, demand side management and conservation, line losses and peak load efficiency. The project will emphasize the need for more investments in the energy sector, increased use of indigenous fuel and strengthened governance to reduce regulatory risks in the energy sector through capacity-building. In addition, ECAP will intensify its technical assistance to the transport sector to implement reforms under the Clean Air Act. The ECA Project will also complement on-going activities, which include the Sustainable Energy Development Program (SEDP), and the Alliance for Mindanao Off-Grid Renewable Energy (AMORE).



ACTIVITIES

Operating in four (4) project sites – Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao, & Baguio, the ECAP seeks to help government address the challenges facing two land mark policy reforms in the power and clean air sectors – the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (2001) and the Clean Air Act (1999) with the Project's three-fold mission:



1. Strengthen sector governance through institutional capacity building;
2. Improve policy frameworks; through policy & implementation; and
3. Increase public understanding & support through communication & outreach.

In the energy component, ECAP is providing organizational development assistance to the Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Energy, and National Power Corporation. ECAP provides a range of communications support in the form of investment promotions assistance and consumer education. Assistance in the implementation of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA) and development of key energy legislation is on-going as well.

In the clean air component, ECAP will support the DENR, DOTC and DTI implement the Clean Air Act (CAA). It shall support the establishment of an efficient vehicle inspection and maintenance as key to reducing vehicle emissions. Likewise, ECAP will pursue a wide public awareness program on the ill effects of poor air quality and the participation of local government units (LGUs) academic institutions, NGOs and the private sector in establishing policies for improved emission standard compliance.